



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Masahiko SAYAMA

Appln. No.: 10/802,731

Confirmation No.: 5016

Filed: March 18, 2004

For: POWER CIRCUIT OF VEHICULAR ELECTRONIC CONTROL

Docket No: Q80417

Allowed: August 17, 2006

Group Art Unit: 2836

Examiner: AMAYA, CARLOS DAVID

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

ATTN: MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REMARKS

Applicant offers the following comments in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance set forth on pages 2-4 of the Notice of Allowability dated August 17, 2006.

While the examiner admits that the prior art does not 'expressly' disclose various elements of the invention, Applicants further submit that the references of record, either alone or in combination, fail to disclose, suggest or inherently contain at least those features identified by the Examiner.

Patent Office personnel are requested to note that the present submission does not adversely affect the patent term adjustment accrued by the Applicant to date. As emphasized in the "Clarification of 37 C.F.R. §1.704(c)(10) – Reduction of Patent Term Adjustment for Certain

Types of Papers Filed After a Notice of Allowance Has Been Mailed,” 1247OG111 (6/26/01), “a response to the examiner’s reasons for allowance” is an example of a paper that does “not cause substantial interference and delay in the patent issue process” and is “not considered a ‘failure to engage in reasonable efforts’ to conclude processing or examination of the application.”

Therefore, the Applicant remains entitled to the full patent term adjustment set forth on page 3 of the Notice of Allowance dated August 17, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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